Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/001,878	HAMILTON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	LoAn H. Thanh	3763	
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.			
1. This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 07/15/04.			
2. \boxtimes The allowed claim(s) is/are 22,24 and 25.			
3. X The drawings filed on 15 July 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.			
 4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority una. a) All b) Some* c) None of the: Certified copies of the priority documents have Certified copies of the priority documents have Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * Certified copies not received: Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONM THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE. 	been received. been received in Application No cuments have been received in this of	national stage applica	
5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subm INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give	itted. Note the attached EXAMINER'es reason(s) why the oath or declara	S AMENDMENT or Nation is deficient.	IOTICE OF
 CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers (a) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Paper No./Mail Date Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1 each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the state of the sheet of the sheet	on's Patent Drawing Review (PTO- s Amendment / Comment or in the C .84(c)) should be written on the drawing the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(c	office action of ngs in the front (not the	
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the depo attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT	SIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL R FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICA	nust de submitted. I AL MATERIAL.	Note the
Attachment(s) 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/O Paper No./Mail Date 4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	5. ☐ Notice of Informal P 6. ☐ Interview Summary Paper No./Mail Dat 7. ☐ Examiner's Amendr 8. ☑ Examiner's Stateme 9. ☑ Other <u>Draw</u> ! 19	(PTO-413), te nent/Comment	

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REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record fails to teach or render obvious a balloon catheter having in combination with all the elements (elongated catheter, inflation lumen, balloon, a tubular tip member, a sheath) and its structural connectivity and further in combination with a tip member which is spaced distally apart from the distal end of the catheter shaft and the balloon distal section is disposed about and secure to the tip.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Drawings

The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant: Proposed figure 8 filed 07/15/04 has been approved.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LoAn H. Thanh whose telephone number is (703) 305-0038. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Fri. (First Friday off).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Casler can be reached on (703) 308-3552. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

4eAn H. Thann Primary Examiner Art Unit 3763